



3  
OF 6

BATMAN™

DYNAMITE®  
THE Shadow



SNYDER  
ORLANDO  
ROSSMO  
PLASCENCIA

RATED T+ TEEN PLUS DCCOMICS.COM AUG 2017





DC UNIVERSE  
REBIRTH

# GREEN ARROW

Hard-Traveling Hero

ISSUE  
26

Part One

TO SAVE HIS COUNTRY,  
HE WILL LEAVE HIS  
CITY BEHIND.

TM & © DC Comics

WRITTEN BY  
**BENJAMIN PERCY**  
ART BY  
**OTTO SCHMIDT & JUAN FERREYRA**

TWICE MONTHLY  
BEGINNING IN  
**JULY**





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# BATMAN™ *THE Shadow*®

3  
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3  
OF 6

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# BATMAN™ *THE Shadow*



TSALE  
2017  
BWAG

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GOTHAM CITY.  
EAST END.

I SEE YOUR  
POINT.



YOU'RE  
**NEW** TO THE CITY  
AND WANT TO EXPLORE  
WHAT THE TOWN HAS  
TO OFFER.

YOU WANT  
TO OPEN UP GOTHAM'S  
BEST AND SEE WHAT'S  
INSIDE? **HINT---**  
IT'S **PINK**.



YOU WANT SOME **LOCALLY**  
SOURCED MAYHEM. AND  
IN RETURN, I GET A TRIP  
TO **SHAMBA-LA**?

WELL, LET ME  
TELL YOU. I'D **KILL**  
TO GET TO THAT  
PROMISED LAND.



SO  
WHAT'S **MY**  
END OF THE  
DEAL?



GOTHAM  
HARBOR.

"THE STAG.  
EXPLAIN."

"I WAS ONCE  
LIKE HIM.  
SERVANT ONLY  
TO MY OWN  
DARK WHIMS."

"BUT I WAS MADE TO CHANGE."

"I REFUTED HIS PHILOSOPHY OF  
PURE SELF-INTEREST. OF EVIL.  
I BECAME THE SHADOW."

"AND FOR THAT,  
THE STAG LOATHES  
ME MOST OF ALL."

"I KNOW THE  
FEELING. WHY  
GOTHAM?"

"HE IS DESCENDED  
FROM THE FIRST  
MURDERER."

"HE BELIEVES HIS  
SOLE RIGHT IS TO  
PREY ON WHOMEVER  
HE CHOOSES."

"WHERE I PUNISH  
SOCIETY'S WORST, HE  
PUNISHES ITS BEST."

"AFTER DECADES, HE ONLY  
NEEDS **ONE MORE** GOOD  
HEART TO OPEN THE DOOR. YOU  
CAN'T STOP HIM **ALONE**."

"YOU DON'T GET A **PASS**  
JUST BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T  
KILL LAMONT CRANSTON."

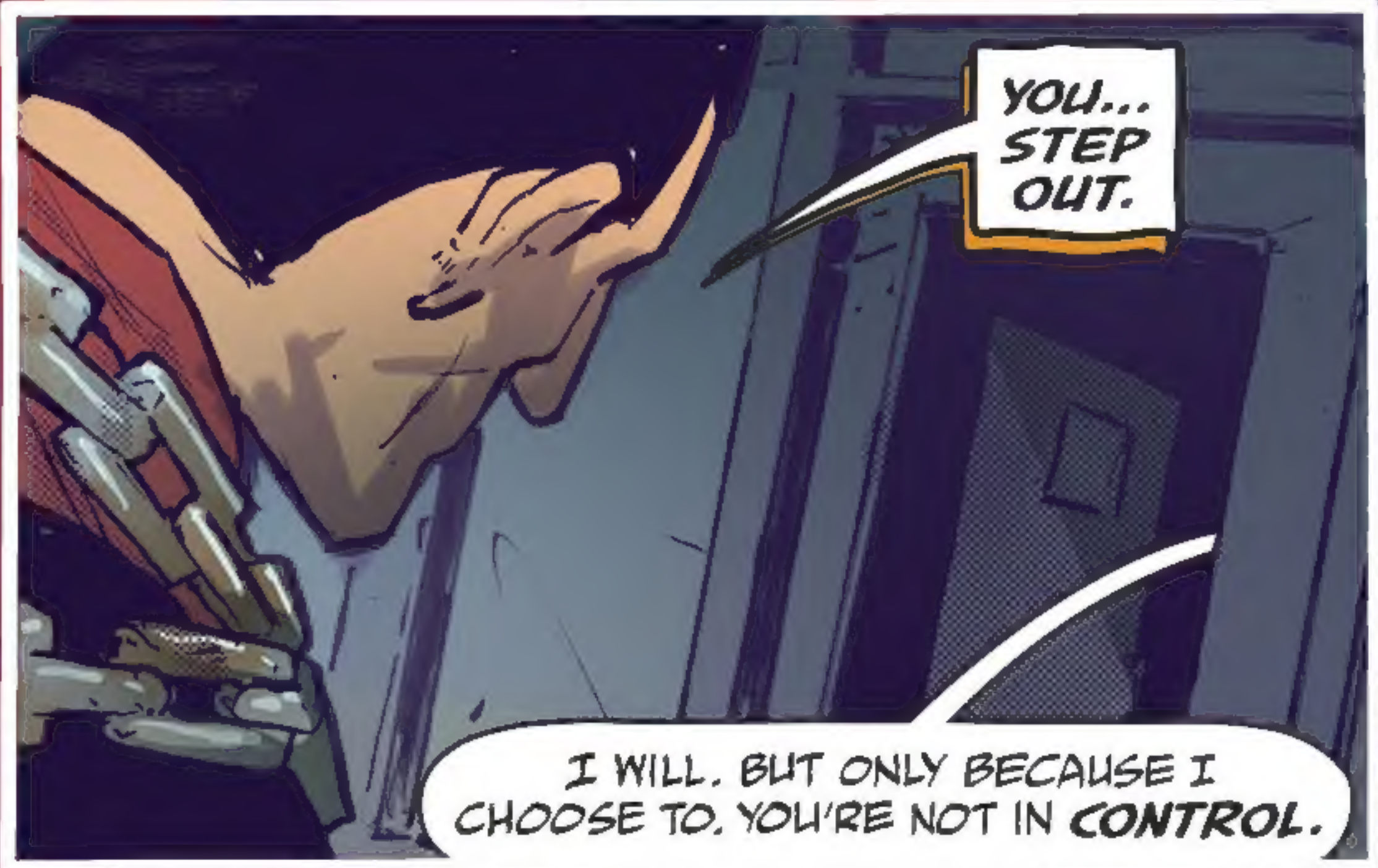
"HIS EACH AND EVERY RITUAL MURDER  
BRINGS THE STAG CLOSER TO SHAMBA-LA--  
THE SAME POWER THAT CREATED ME."

"I'LL STOP THE STAG.  
THEN I'LL DEAL WITH YOU."

"WE'RE AT THE BOTTOM  
OF GOTHAM HARBOR.  
**MILLIONS** OF  
GALLONS OF WATER  
HANG OVER YOUR HEAD."



"BEHAVE  
WHILE I'M  
GONE."



YOU...  
STEP  
OUT.

I WILL, BUT ONLY BECAUSE I  
CHOOSE TO. YOU'RE NOT IN **CONTROL**.

I HAVE BEEN IN  
CONTROL SINCE  
BEFORE YOU WERE  
**BORN**, ALFRED  
PENNYWORTH.

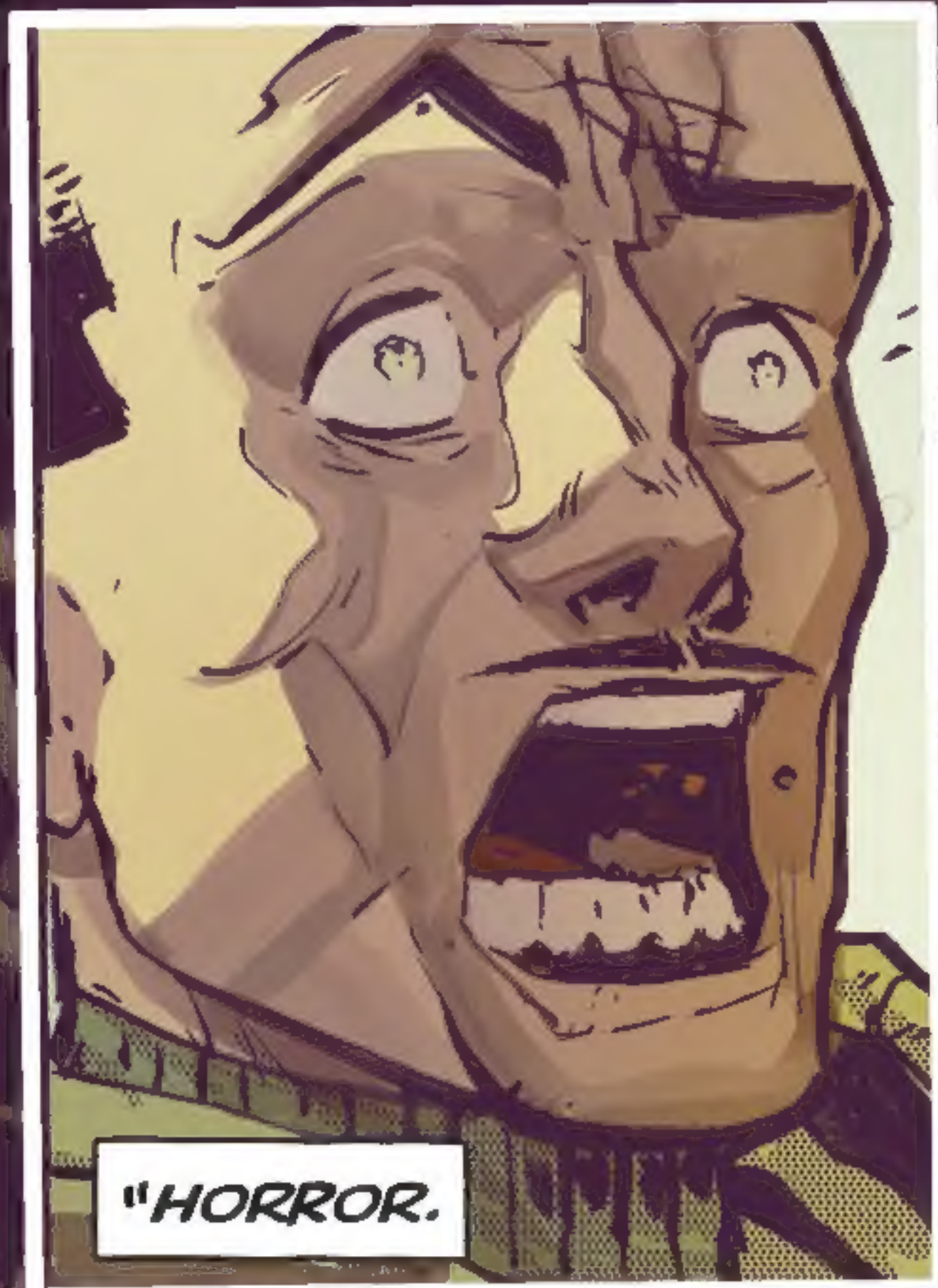
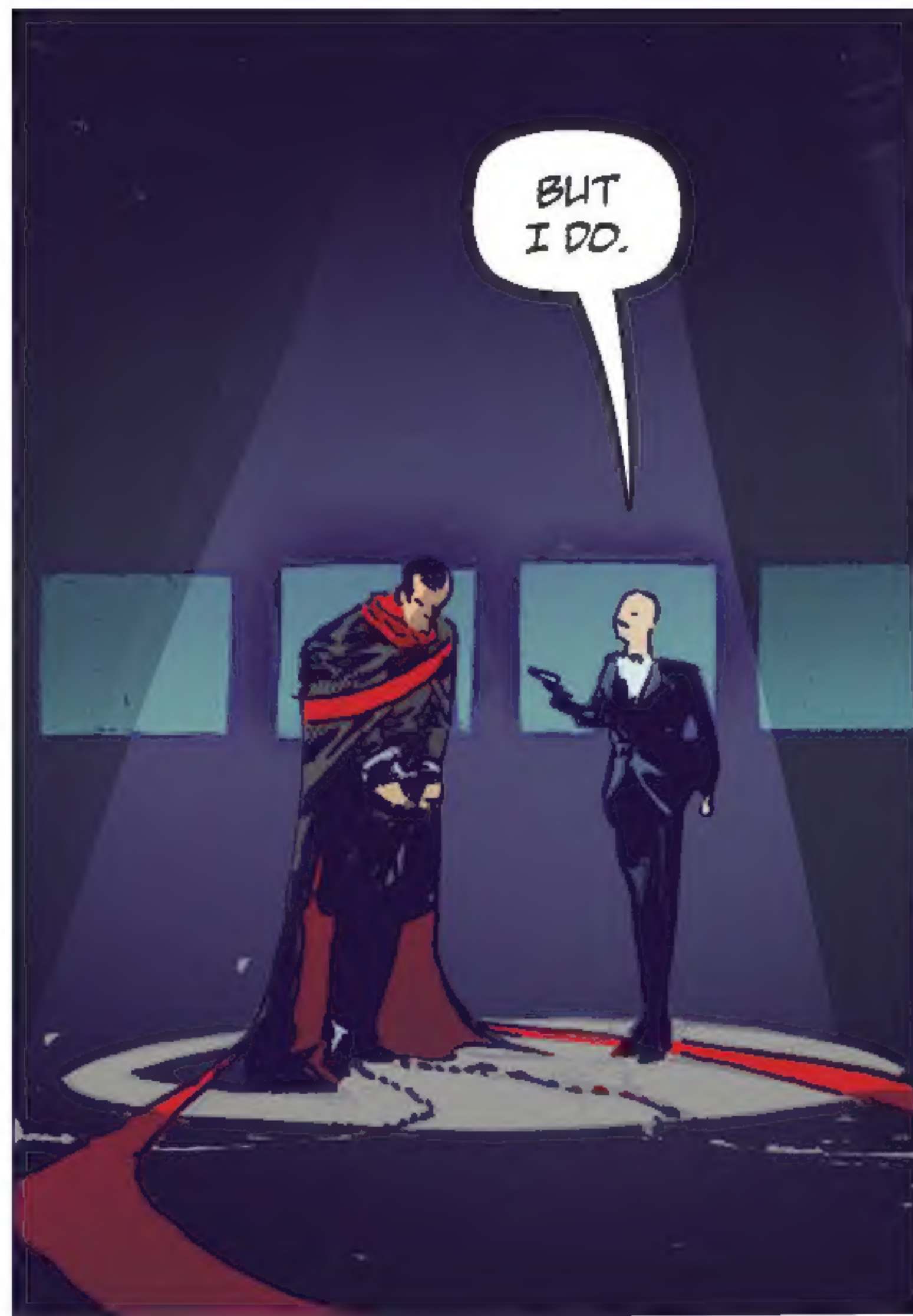
ALL WELL AND GOOD.  
BUT ONLY TWO PEOPLE COULD  
ESCAPE THOSE CHAINS.

ONE IS  
A **GOD**. THE  
OTHER IS  
**BATMAN**.



AND **WHO** DO YOU  
THINK **TAUGHT** HIM?





"TRUE EVIL--POTENT, PRIMAL, UNENDING. SCAR TISSUE ON A BETTER WORLD."





EAST  
END.

I GET IT.  
YOUR SHADOW'S  
WORKING WITH  
BAT-EARS AND YOU  
WANT SOMEONE TO  
STAB WITH.

BUT  
**WHY** SHOULD  
I **TRUST**  
YOU?

I AM AN  
HONEST  
SIGNAL.

THAT'S SOME  
**SCIENCE**  
RIGHT THERE--  
DIDN'T EXPECT  
THAT FROM  
SOMEONE SO  
PRECAMBRIAN.

I LIKE IT.  
MEANS YOU'RE  
**LIKE ME. EXACTLY**  
WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE.  
TOXIC. DEADLY. AND  
YOU DON'T **HIDE** IT.

WHAT  
YOU GOT  
THERE?

HOLD ON.

I DIDN'T  
KNOW THERE'D BE  
**READING.**





...I FIND MYSELF NEWLY STIMULATED.

CAIN? CAN'T PICK YOUR FAMILY, I GUESS. A BIT TRADITIONAL FOR ME. I PRIDE MYSELF ON INNOVATION.

BUT I KNOW AN APEX PREDATOR WHEN I SEE ONE.



A LION DOESN'T PASS JUDGEMENT ON A GAZELLE. CANCER DOESN'T PASS JUDGEMENT ON A BRAIN. I'VE BEEN SAYING THIS ALL ALONG.

EVIL DOESN'T EXIST. THERE ARE ONLY ACTIONS.

WE GOT TO THE SAME PLACE-- THE TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN--JUST ON DIFFERENT PATHS.

MINE WAS MORE FUN.



BUT, HORNY? I THINK WE'RE GOING TO GET ALONG JUST FINE.



GOTHAM HARBOR.

YOU ATTACKED MASTER BRUCE IN LAMONT CRANSTON'S APARTMENT.

WHY?

NO ONE COMMANDS THE SHADOW.

SOMEONE DOES. I MIGHT BE OLD, BUT YOU'RE A **STATIONARY TARGET** AND I'VE GOT THE PISTOL.

DO YOU?

WHAT?!

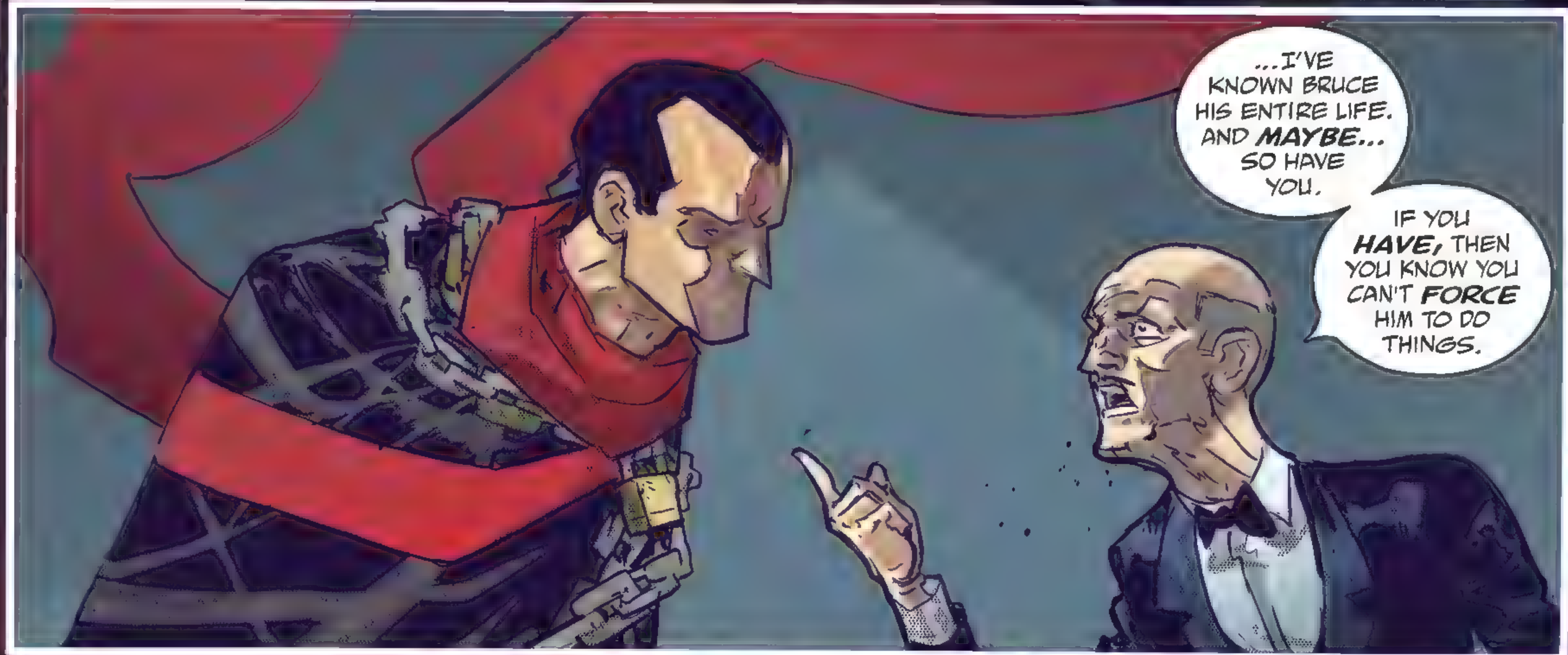
IT--IT WAS IN MY HAND!

THE CLOUDED MIND IS CONFIDENT, PENNYWORTH.

AS FOR MY ATTACK--I HAVE NEVER STOPPED **TRAINING** BRUCE. SOME **LESSONS** CAN ONLY BE LEARNED IN HINDSIGHT.

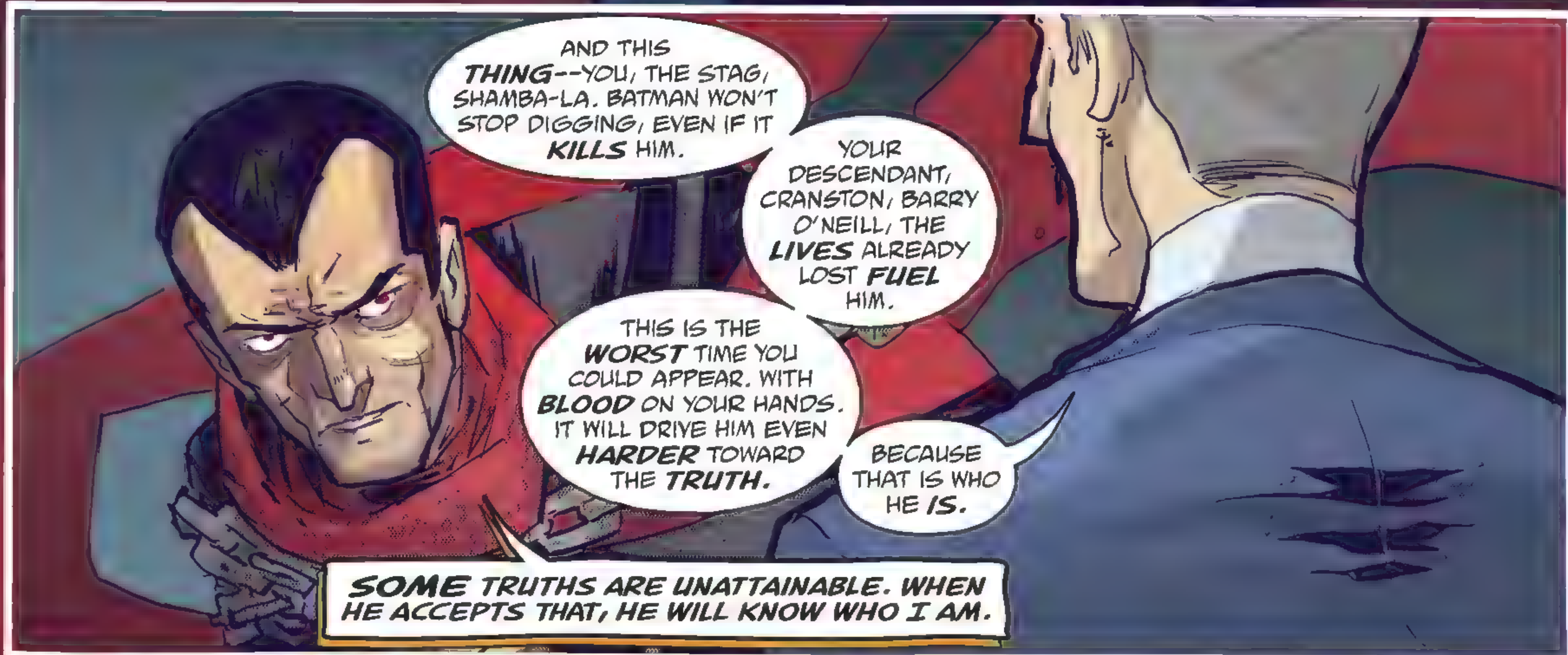
AND CONTEMPLATION OF **THE SHADOW** IS BRUCE WAYNE'S MOST IMPORTANT LESSON.





...I'VE  
KNOWN BRUCE  
HIS ENTIRE LIFE.  
AND **MAYBE...**  
SO HAVE  
YOU.

IF YOU  
**HAVE**, THEN  
YOU KNOW YOU  
CAN'T **FORCE**  
HIM TO DO  
THINGS.



AND THIS  
**THING**---YOU, THE STAG,  
SHAMBA-LA. BATMAN WON'T  
STOP DIGGING, EVEN IF IT  
**KILLS** HIM.

YOUR  
DESCENDANT,  
CRANSTON, BARRY  
O'NEILL, THE  
**LIVES** ALREADY  
LOST **FUEL**  
HIM.

THIS IS THE  
**WORST** TIME YOU  
COULD APPEAR. WITH  
**BLOOD** ON YOUR HANDS.  
IT WILL DRIVE HIM EVEN  
**HARDER** TOWARD  
THE **TRUTH**.

BECAUSE  
THAT IS WHO  
HE IS.

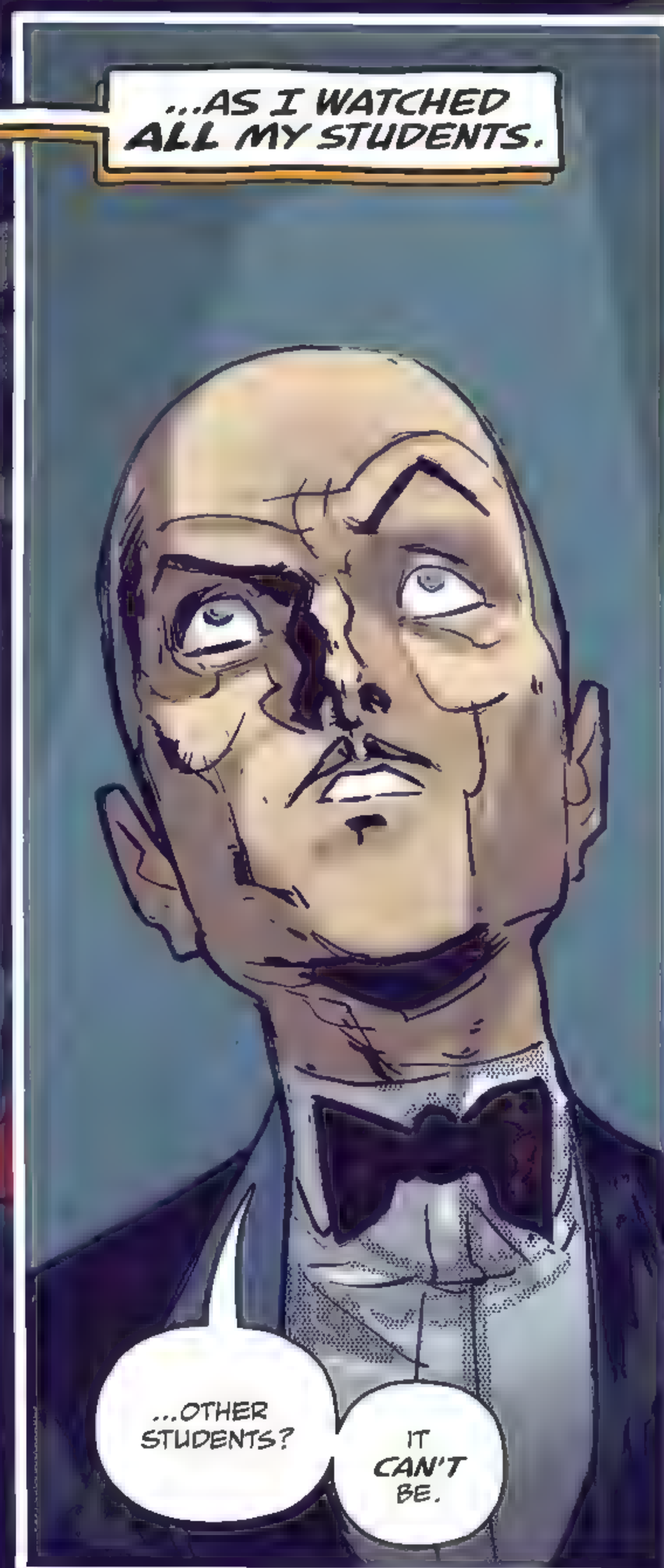
**SOME TRUTHS ARE UNATTAINABLE. WHEN  
HE ACCEPTS THAT, HE WILL KNOW WHO I AM.**

**BUT THIS IS NOT THE  
FIRST TIME I'VE APPEARED.**

I HAVE VISITED HIM **MANY**  
TIMES, IN **MANY** FACES, LEAVING  
HIS MIND CLOUDED. THIS FACE  
BUT A GLINT IN THE PERIPHERAL  
VISION OF HIS MIND'S EYE.

I HAVE LONG  
WATCHED BATMAN'S  
DEVELOPMENT...

...AS I WATCHED  
ALL MY STUDENTS.



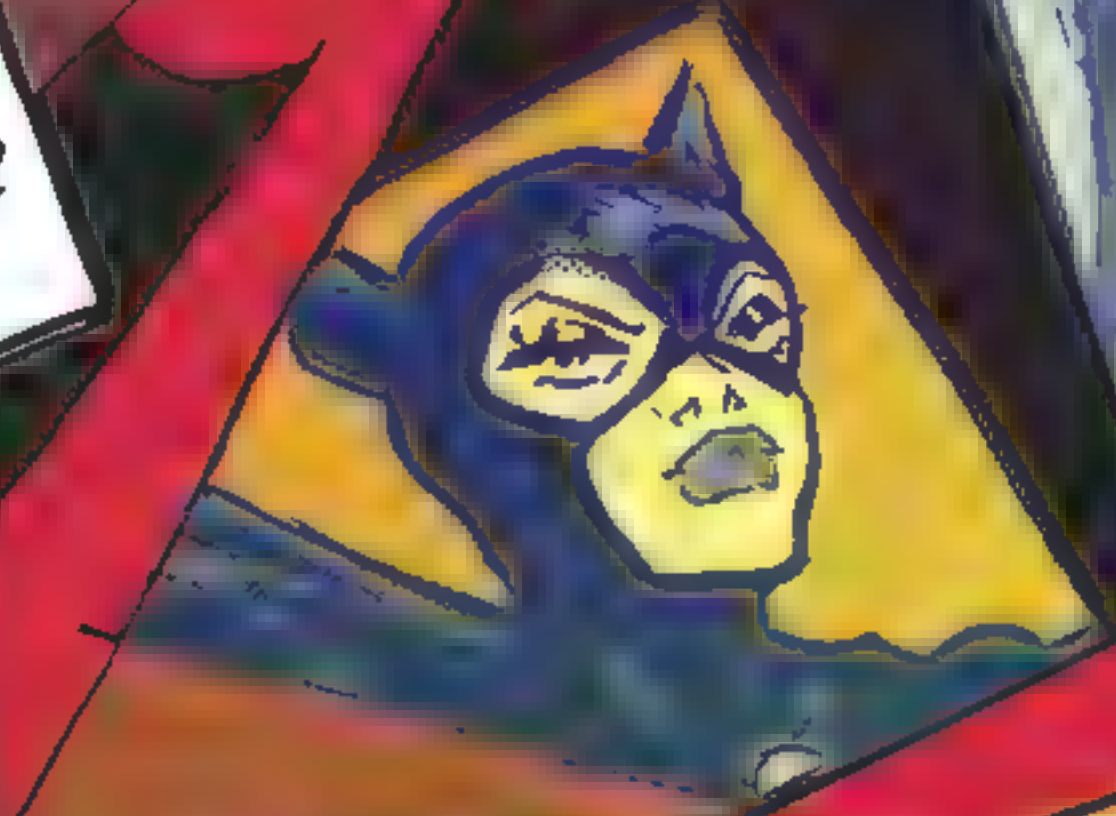
...OTHER  
STUDENTS?

IT  
CAN'T  
BE.



"CAN'T IT?"

"I HAVE BUILT  
AN ARMY OVER  
THE DECADES..."



"SOLDIERS THAT WOULD  
ONE DAY STAND WITH ME  
AGAINST AN IMMORTAL  
KILLER MY GUNS ALONE  
COULD NOT SILENCE."



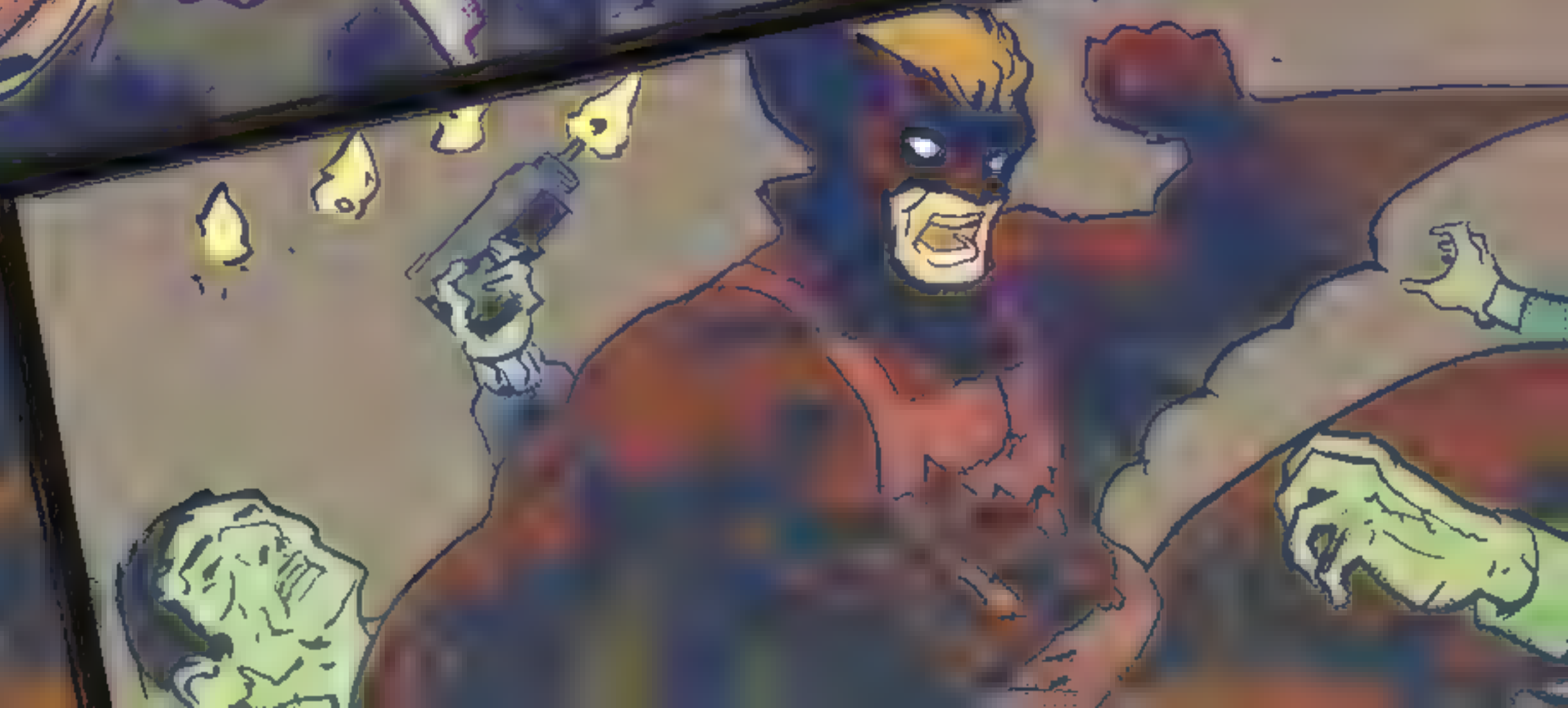
"YET AS EACH  
WAS ABOUT TO  
COMPLETE THEIR  
TRAINING, THEY  
WERE CUT DOWN  
BY THE STAG."



"BATMAN IS  
NOT MY ONLY  
STUDENT, ALFRED  
PENNYWORTH."



"BUT HE IS  
THE LAST."









**CRASH**

I KNOW  
I WOULD.





**CRUNCH**

STAG.

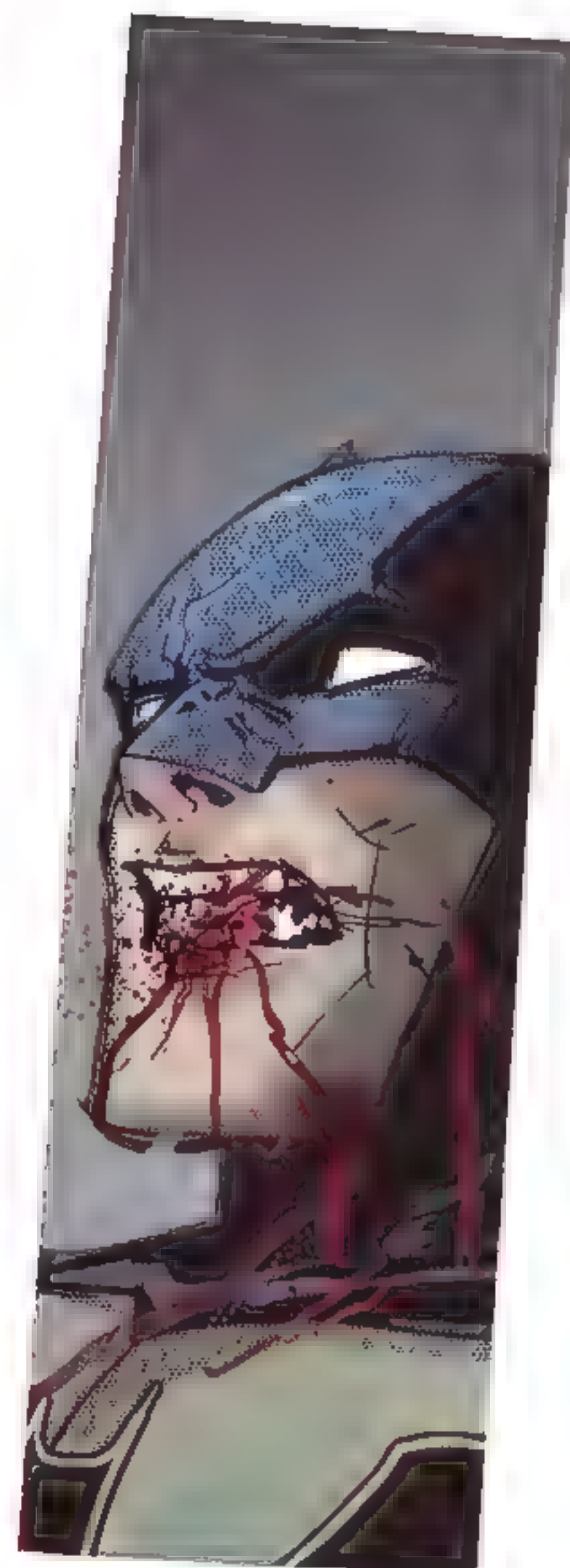
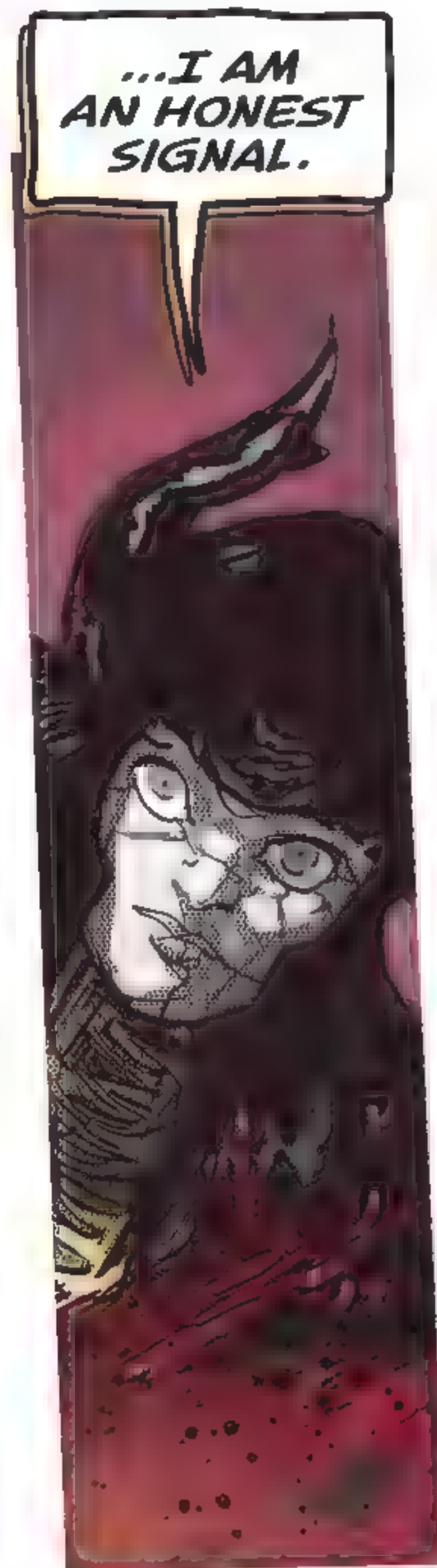
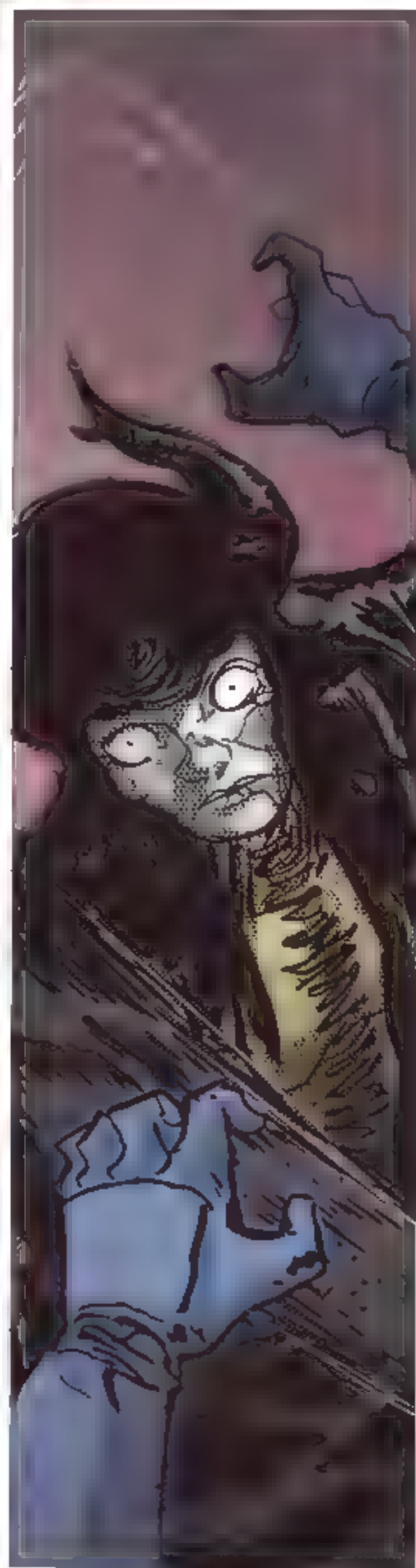
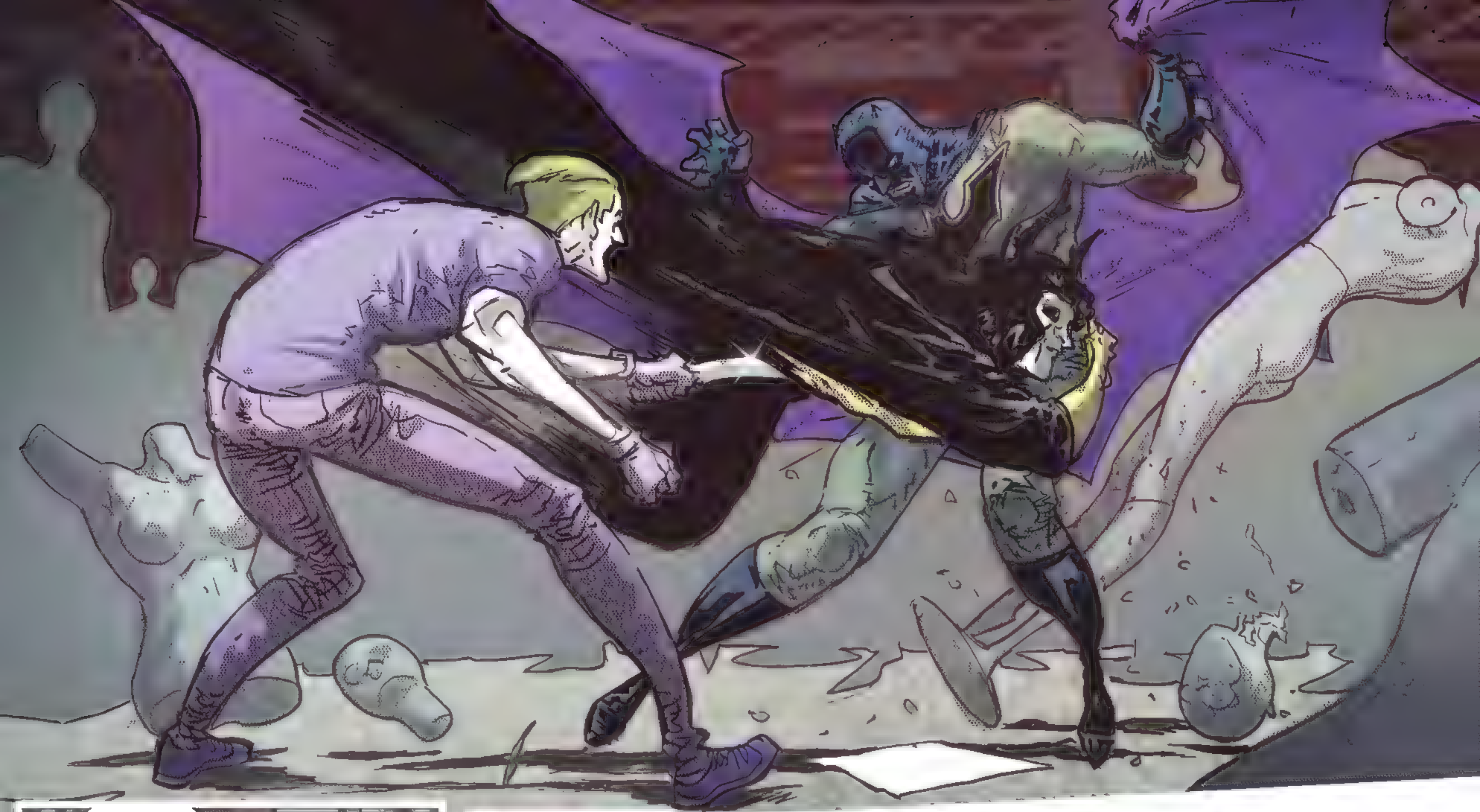
JOKER.

A comic book panel featuring a character with a yellow helmet and a menacing, toothy grin. The character is holding a large, curved knife. A speech bubble above the character's head contains the word "SURE." The background is a solid dark purple color. The character's face is partially obscured by the helmet, and the lighting is dramatic, highlighting the character's features and the knife.

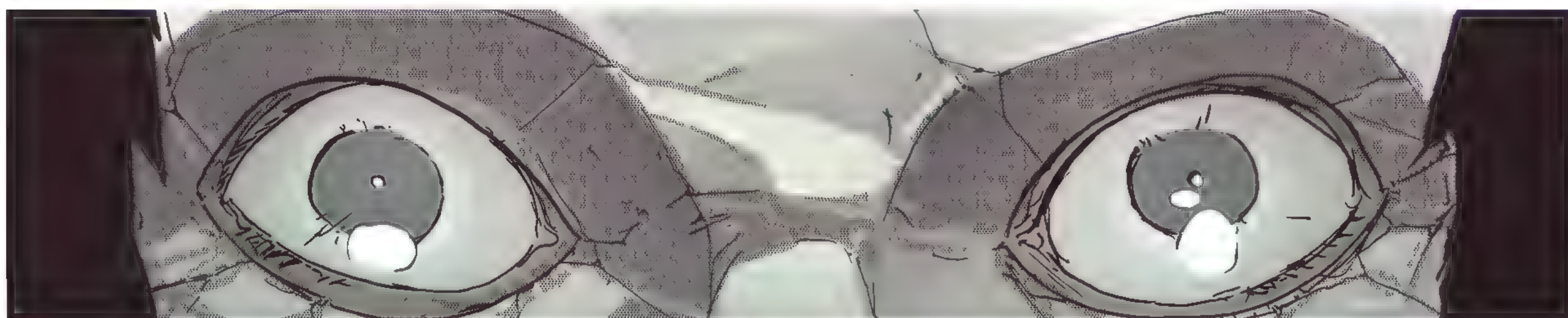
A comic book panel featuring a character with a wide, toothy grin, showing sharp teeth. The character has short, light-colored hair and is wearing a dark shirt. A speech bubble above the character's head contains the text: "THE NEW KID'S ALWAYS EXCITING." The background is dark and indistinct.

A comic book panel featuring Batman and Robin. Batman is on the left, wearing his iconic suit and cowl, with a determined expression. Robin is on the right, in his classic red, green, and yellow costume, striking a dynamic pose with one arm extended forward. A speech bubble from Batman reads: "BUT MY NAME SHOULD ALWAYS COME FIRST." A large, stylized sound effect "SLERITCH" is written across the bottom of the panel. The background is a dark, textured purple.

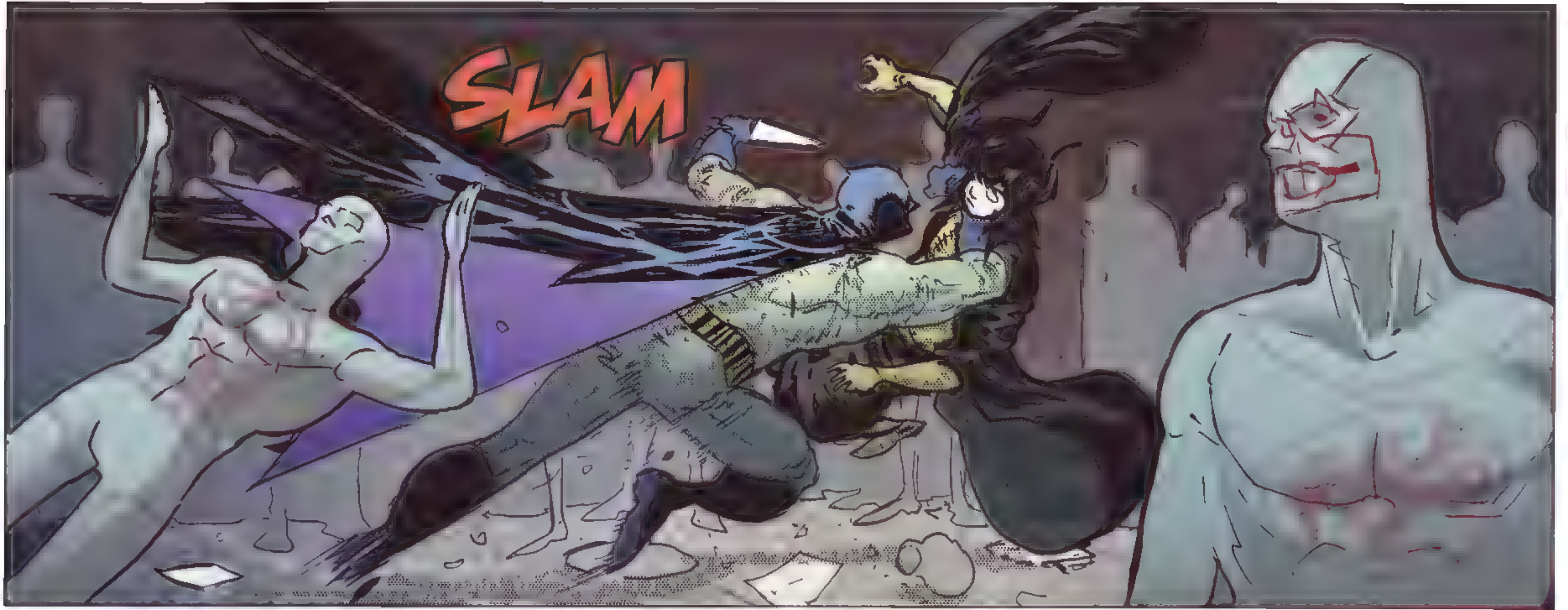












HOW?  
HOW DID YOU  
DO IT?

I SAW YOU  
DIE. NO ONE  
COULD **SURVIVE** A  
WOUND LIKE THAT. A  
FALL FROM THAT  
HEIGHT.

THE **SHADOW**  
BELIEVES YOU'RE  
**IMMORTAL**.

I WANT THE  
**TRUTH**.

**TELL ME**  
HOW YOU  
WALKED AWAY  
FROM THAT  
GUNSHOT.



OR YOU  
WON'T BE  
WALKING  
AT ALL.



I AM AN  
HONEST  
SIGNAL.



SO AM I!





MAYBE  
YOU'VE BEEN  
**RIGHT**, YOU  
KNOW?



PARTNERS.  
SO USEFUL.



ALL  
THOSE TIMES  
WHEN I WAS BASHING  
THEIR BRAINS WHILE YOU  
SNUCK UP FROM  
BEHIND.

I CAN  
LEARN,  
TOO.



SEE?

**THWAM**





GOTHAM  
HARBOR.

...STAY  
WHERE YOU  
ARE.

**NO.**

IT IS  
**TIME** I  
TOOK MY  
LEAVE.

WHAT--  
YOU CAN'T, YOU  
CAN'T.

YOU NOW KNOW  
WHAT YOU MUST. I  
HAVE BEEN HERE  
**EXACTLY** AS  
LONG AS NEEDED.

THERE ARE ONLY SO  
MANY **GOOD** PEOPLE  
IN GOTHAM. YOU ARE  
NOT ONE OF THEM.  
NEITHER AM I.

I TOLD BRUCE FROM  
THE START. IT IS WHY I  
GUIDED HIM THROUGH  
**EVERY** FACE THAT  
MADE HIM WHO HE IS.

IT WASN'T  
**JUST**  
TO DEFEAT  
THE STAG.

IT WAS TO **PROTECT**  
HIM. BRUCE WAS IN  
DANGER FROM THE  
MOMENT HE CHOSE TO  
BECOME A BAT. TO  
GIVE UP A HUMAN LIFE  
TO PROTECT OTHERS.

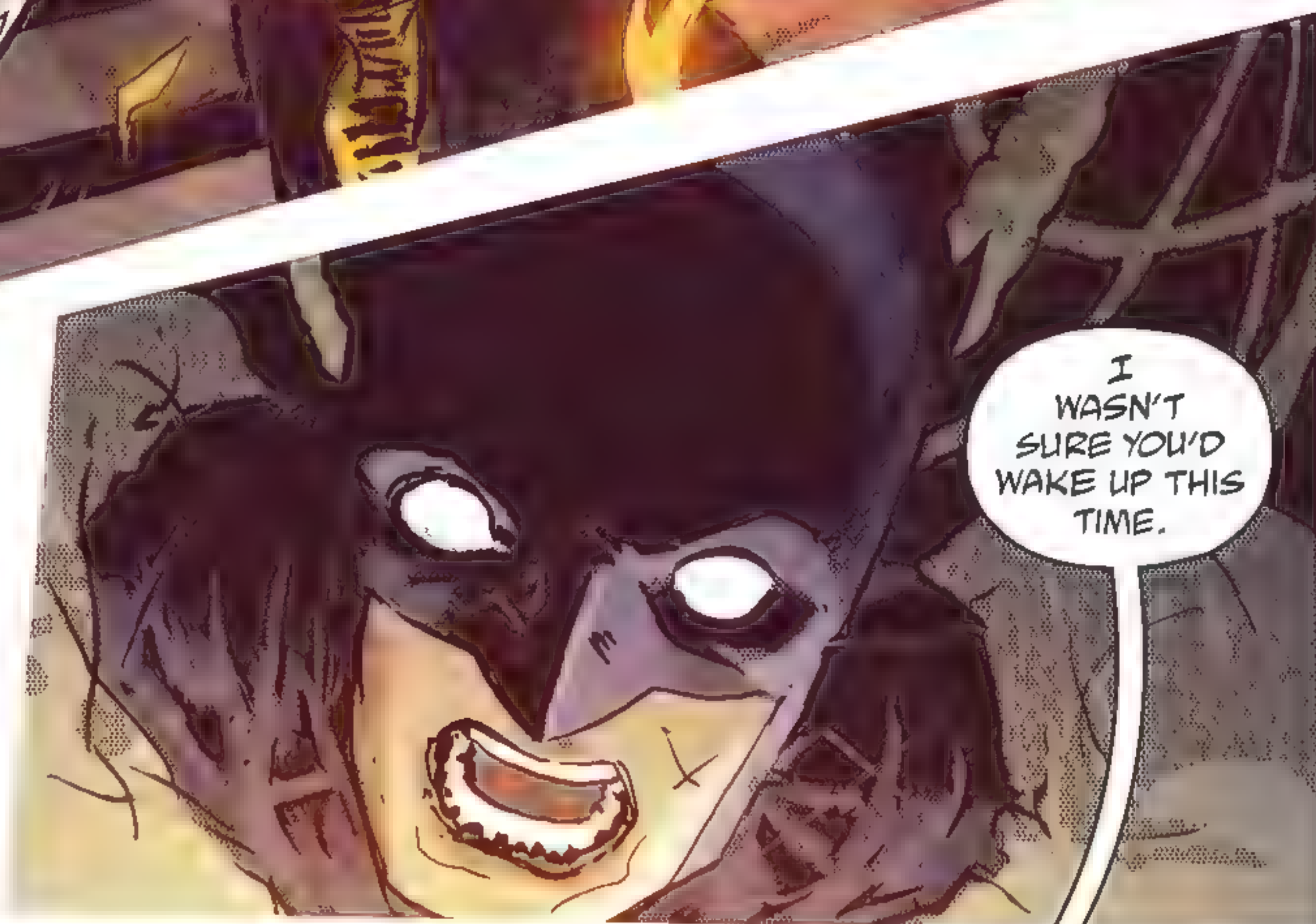
TO BE ONE OF  
GOOTHAM'S  
**BEST.**



"BRUCE WAYNE  
IS THE STAG'S  
FINAL VICTIM."



EXCITING!



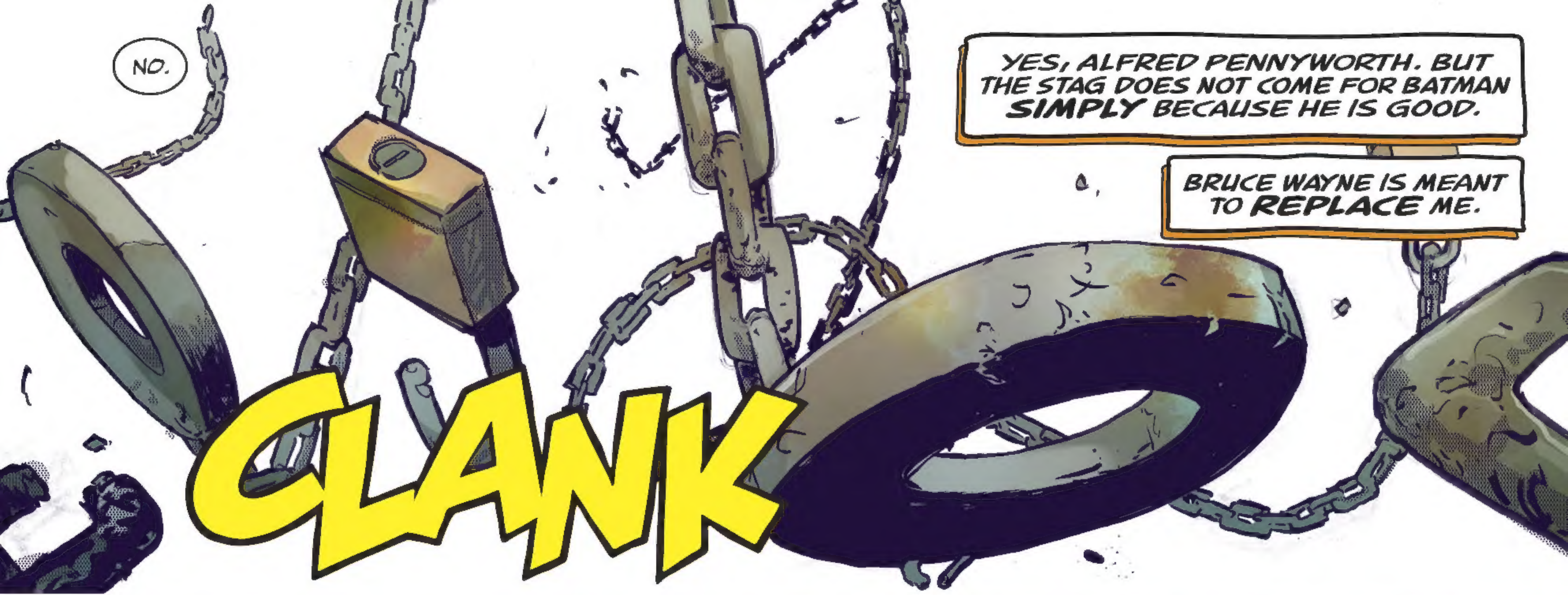
I  
WASN'T  
SURE YOU'D  
WAKE UP THIS  
TIME.





YOU'LL  
LOVE WHAT  
COMES  
NEXT.





NO.

YES, ALFRED PENNYWORTH. BUT THE STAG DOES NOT COME FOR BATMAN SIMPLY BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.

BRUCE WAYNE IS MEANT TO REPLACE ME.

CLANK



HE COMES BECAUSE **BATMAN** IS DESTINED TO BECOME THE **NEXT SHADOW**.

# BATMAN/SHADOW PART THREE

SCOTT SNYDER & STEVE ORLANDO WRITERS RILEY ROSSMO ARTIST

IVAN PLASCENCIA COLORS CLEM ROBINS LETTERS RILEY ROSSMO COVER  
TIM SALE & BRENNAN WAGNER EDUARDO RISSO VARIANT COVERS  
DAVE WIELGOSZ MARK DOYLE BATMAN CREATED BY  
ASST. EDITOR EDITOR BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER

NEXT: BLOOD IN GOTHAM'S TOMB



DC UNIVERSE REBIRTH



DIANA'S POWERS SAVE LIVES...  
BUT SOME WOULD KILL TO HAVE THEM!



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# WONDER WOMAN

HEART OF THE AMAZON Part One

THE NEW STORY ARC BEGINS IN ISSUE #26!

WRITTEN BY **SHEA FONTANA** ART BY **MIRKA ANDOLFO**

TWICE MONTHLY  
BEGINNING IN  
**JULY**



# BATMAN™ *THE Shadow*®

## PART THREE THE MURDER GENIUSES

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**ARTIST: Riley Rossmo**

**COLORIST: Ivan Plascencia**

**LETTERER: Clem Robins**

**COVER: Riley Rossmo**

**VARIANT COVERS: Tim Sale & Brennan Wagner, Eduardo Risso**

Batman created by Bob Kane with Bill Finger

**DC COMICS EDITOR: Mark Doyle**

**DC COMICS ASSISTANT EDITOR: Dave Wielgosz**

**DYNAMITE EDITOR: Matt Idelson**



Special Thanks – **Neil McGinness, Conde Nast**

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